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"Dido" mentioned by Heyne on Aen. 4, 518, and reproduced in Visconti, Museo Pio-Clementino II, tav. xl and tav B 10.

5, 100: The pastoral practice of inscribing poems on beech-trees deserves a reference to Virgil, Ecl. 5, 13; Calpurnius, Ecl. 1, 20 ff.; and for Hellenistic sources, Jacoby, Rhein. Mus. lv (1905), p. 58.

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Beowulf. Edited, with introduction, bibliography, notes, glossary, and appendices. By W. J. SEDGEFIELD, Litt. D., Professor of English Language. Second edition, revised and partly rewritten. Manchester, at the University Press, 1913. Agents for the United States, Longmans, Green & Co.

Beowulf, with the Finnsburg Fragment. Edited by A. J. WYATT. New edition, revised, with introduction and notes, by R. W. CHAMBERS. Cambridge, at the University Press. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1914.

Beowulfists are to be congratulated on the two handsome editions in which their favorite poem has recently appeared. Time was when it was hard to find *one* edition, and now we have *two*, unsurpassed.

On page XLVII of the bibliography in Professor Sedgefield's edition, I find my own humble effort characterized as "((prose). Boston, 1882; 4th edn., 1900)". Prose! It must be so. Alas! for all human effort! I might have at least received credit for having printed the *first* facsimile, though reduced, from the Zupitza autotypes, for copies of which—before Zupitza's edition was issued—I was indebted to the late Dr. Furnivall, a fact that has been stated in my first Preface of "August, 1882", and in every copy issued since. But it matters little who was the first to publish anything. It is only important to know who has done his work best, and I am willing to be judged by my "fellow Beowulfists". I can at least claim credit for having published the *first* Beowulf-bibliography, which has sometimes been used without acknowledgment, but after it was in print, the whole world was at liberty to use it, and to improve upon it, which I hope has been done.

The introduction of Professor Sedgefield's edition treats the MS. of the Poem, Text of the Present Edition, Dialect, Grammatical Forms, Syntax, Metre, Tone, Style, Vocabulary,

Analysis of Poem, Composition, Structure, Subject-matter: Historical, Legendary, Fabulous, Mythical, Origin, Authorship, Date, Relation to other Old English Poetry, with a full bibliography treating The MS., Editions, Translations, wherein my bantling appears after Kemble, Wackerbarth, Thorpe, Arnold, and Lumsden,—all followed by Selected Literature, Linguistic, Metre, Tone, Style, Vocabulary, Composition, Structure, and Miscellaneous. I am well aware that my Bibliography needs revision, but since it was compiled, the knowledge of the poem has so extended that each editor has made his own bibliography. After the text of Professor Sedgefield's edition there follows a notice of the Fight at Finnsburg (usually now appended to Beowulf), and Other O. E. Poems relating to the Germanic Heroic Age, as Widsith, Waldere, Deor's Lament, with a body of Notes of over 40 pages, a Glossary of 100 pages, Genealogical Tables, a List of Proper Names, and five Appendices, making 272 pages in all.

The Edition of Wyatt and Chambers, being Wyatt's well-known text, in a new edition, revised, with introduction and notes by R. W. Chambers. The Introduction includes sections on The Text of Beowulf, The Manuscript, Textual Emendation, Aim of the Present Edition, with articles on Text Restoration, Type, Hyphens and Punctuation, Notes, with mention of four translations, among which my own is conspicuous by its absence, eleven contributions to the study of the text being named, and about twenty articles in periodicals and reviews, with a note on the Glossary, and a mention of Cook's Concordance to Beowulf. The editor quotes a remark of Wyatt's that "a too elaborate glossary may rob the work of much of its educative value". I cannot agree with him, and I think that the first edition of Heyne was conspicuous by the excellence of its glossary. My translation was made with much thumbing of the glossaries of both Grein and Heyne; I wish some one would reprint Grein's Glossary, and I have been long waiting for the completion of the Bosworth-Toller Dictionary, for we need it *all the time*.

A very careful comparison of the texts of both Sedgefield and Wyatt and Chambers can alone determine which is best, and it should be made with the texts of both Grein and Heyne, for these are not yet antiquated, even if there are more recent editions.

The writer has in view the preparation of a *variorum* edition, but he wishes that some one else would make it, for he does not know when he will find time for it. It is, in his opinion, worth doing, and it would give useful employment to some one of the younger generation, among whom he can no longer consider

himself, seeing that it is now over thirty years since he first busied himself with the text and translation of "Beowulf". He does not regret the time spent on it, for he thinks that it has been well-spent, but he realizes that he is no longer as young as he once was, and he is very willing to give place to a younger man.

There are a few hints, however, which he might give to the prospective editor. He should read carefully *all* the articles on the subject in the philological journals. He should compare all the texts that have been published. He should base his text on the Zupitza autotypes, if he cannot get access to the unique manuscript, Vitellius A. XV. He should conscientiously weigh all the suggestions that have been made as to various readings, and he should decide for himself as to the *best* text, so that his work should not need to be done over again.

With a careful observance of these suggestions, we may soon have a *variorum* edition of Beowulf that will be welcomed by all engaged in the study of the poem, and that will serve as a *final* edition.

JAMES M. GARNETT.



RECENT WORKS ON ROMAN HISTORY AND PALAEOGRAPHY.

Der Staat der alten Italiker. Untersuchungen über die ursprüngliche Verfassung der Latiner, Osker, und Etrusker. By ARTHUR ROSENBERG. Berlin, 1913. Pp. 142.

Since the publication of Wilhelm Schulze's *Zur Geschichte lateinischer Eigennamen* in 1904 there have appeared a considerable number of books and articles on different phases of the early history of Italy. Of these books the largest number have dealt either with questions of constitutional development or have been studies of the names and functions of magistrates. Rosenberg's book belongs to the last category. It is divided into three sections; the first, under the title 'Die Magistratur im alten Italien', has, in 100 pages, 10 subsections devoted to the history of the earliest Oscan, Sabine, Umbrian, Etruscan, and Latin magistrates. This section is the important part of the book, section two, *Die Romanisierung der italischen Magistratur*, and section three, *Volksversammlung und Rat*, containing little either of importance or interest.